

REMARKS

The Office Action in the above-identified application has been carefully considered and this amendment has been presented to place this application in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, reexamination and reconsideration of this application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-2, 4-5, 7-10, 12-13, and 15-16 are in the present application. It is submitted that these claims were patentably distinct over the prior art cited by the Examiner, and that these claims were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112. The changes to the claims, as presented herein, are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. sections 101, 102, 103 or 112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled. Claims 3, 6, 11, and 14 are canceled.

Claims 1-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gilhooley et al. (GB 2275800 A) in view of Staats (U.S. Patent 6,618,750) in further view of Hamlin (U.S. Patent 6,735,693). As described in the specification and drawings, the system of the present invention handles both the recently developed digital bus input (IEEE1394) and the previously developed analog or optical inputs. The present system is able to automatically recognize devices connected through an IEEE1394 bus. However, analog or optical inputs do not provide for automatic recognition of connected devices. The present claims recite that "said memory means changes the name data indicating the names of said terminals in accordance with a user's input operation." (Claim 1; Claims 4, 7, 9, 12, and 15 contain similar limitations) Accordingly, the present invention provides for the name of a connected device to be input by a

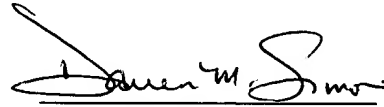
user and stored in memory in association with the input terminal. In this manner, the system can display both the names of devices connected through an IEEE1394 input and the previously developed analog inputs. In other words, the names of devices connected through the IEEE1394 connection are automatically recognized and the names of device connected through the other inputs can be input by the user. This ability to display the names of devices connected through both types of inputs distinguishes the present invention over the prior art references cited by the Examiner. Specifically, Gilhooley, Staats, and Hamlin, alone or in combination, fail to show this use of both automatic and manual (user) input of connected device names from different input types for display. Accordingly, for at least these reasons, Gilhooley, Staats, and Hamlin fail to obviate the present invention and the rejected claims should now be allowed.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application as now presented is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

No additional fees are deemed to be required for the filing of this amendment, but if such are, the Examiner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with the above-identified application to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions, he/she is invited to call the undersigned at the telephone number provided below. The Examiner's consideration of this matter is gratefully acknowledged.

Respectfully submitted,
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